

OTA Advisor E-Newsletter: Winter 2005

Welcome to the Massachusetts Office of Technical Assistance's (OTA) email newsletter, the OTA Advisor. This will provide information on major OTA initiatives, available tools and publications, upcoming workshops and events, and other news of interest to Toxics Use Reduction Act (TURA) filers and other toxic chemical users. An electronic version of the OTA Advisor, and other information on toxics use reduction in Massachusetts can be found on the OTA website at <http://www.mass.gov/ota>. If you have suggestions on how we can make the OTA Advisor more useful, or to add or remove your name from the mailing list, please email your request to maota@state.ma.us. If you would like to express comments, views or ideas about OTA's services, please email director Paul Richard directly at paul.richard@state.ma.us.

REMINDERS:

Have you filed your EPCRA Tier II Chemical Inventory Report?

They are due March 1st... visit the EPA website for more information.
<http://yosemite.epa.gov/oswer/ceppoweb.nsf/content/tier2.htm>

IN THE NEWS:

OTA Announces Plans for Two New Industry Sector Focus Groups: Rubber and Marine Technologies

OTA plans to hold two focus groups in the spring of 2005 for those Massachusetts companies in the Rubber Industry sector (typically from, but not exclusive to, SICs: 2821, 2822, and 301 thru 306) and those companies in the Marine Technology Industry sector (typically from, but not exclusive to, SICs: 357, 369, 376, 381, 382, 386, 387, and 873).

The overall goal of these meetings is to help OTA develop a better understanding of the pollution prevention opportunities and regulatory compliance issues of the companies in these sectors and to identify the types of services OTA can provide to best meet industries needs. The assessment of pollution prevention opportunities will consider OTA's High Priority Substance initiative, and take note of opportunities arising from the supply chain. The assessment of regulatory compliance issues should focus on environmental concerns (e.g., toxics use, hazardous waste, air emissions, water use, wastewater discharges). Of particular interest will be issues surrounding those products, which contain lead, lead compounds or other toxics.

Scott Fortier is organizing the Rubber Industry Sector focus group meeting and can be contacted at 617-626-1090 or email scott.fortier@state.ma.us. Jim Cain is organizing the Marine Technology Industry Sector focus group meeting and can be contacted at 617-626-1081 or email james.cain@state.ma.us.

Evaluation of the Massachusetts STAR Training Program and the LaserTouch Technology

Results from Initial Training Class

On October 2, 2003, the first Massachusetts Spray Technique and Analysis Research (STAR®) training center was opened at Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical School in Charlton, MA. The Office of Technical Assistance (OTA) established the STAR® training center, in cooperation with Bay Path Regional, with a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency that will work to improve manual spray-painting operations, thereby reducing health risks and environmental impacts. The program, originally developed by the Iowa Waste Reduction Center, is directed towards automotive technicians, industrial painters, and students studying to become spray technicians. Participants experience individual, hands-on training using a laser-guided spray gun that optimizes transfer efficiency and reduces overspray, thus reducing pollution and paint waste.

STAR® trainees using the LaserTouch have shown improvements in maintaining a consistent spray distance, proper gun angle, uniform coating thickness and improved transfer efficiency. The improvements can be attributed to both the basic training in spray paint technique and the LaserTouch technology. The initial class of trainees at the STAR® center realized a reduction of 33% in their paint consumption at the end of their training session.

The STAR® training and use of LaserTouch requires less paint and results in moderate cost savings in addition to the environmental benefits. The LaserTouch technology is most effective when painting large items and/or simply shaped items where little handling is required during painting. Trainees indicated that they were comfortable using the LaserTouch after one day of use and would recommend this technology to other technicians. For more information about the program please contact Rich Bizzozero of OTA at 617-626-1080 or at rich.bizzozero@state.ma.us, if you are interested in signing up for training please contact Jeremy Guay at Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical School at 508-248-5971 x1770. A brochure for the STAR® program is available on the OTA website: www.mass.gov/ota.

EVENTS:

Form S and Form R Workshops

The Office of Technical Assistance will host a series of workshops in the spring to assist TUR filers with their e-filing. OTA will host a session on this topic at the TURP conference on April 14th in Sturbridge, Massachusetts. In addition, two OTA sponsored workshops have been scheduled so far. The first is on May 24, 2005 at Bridgewater Community College in Bridgewater, MA. The second will be on May 26, 2005 at Quinsigamond Community College in Worcester, MA. Two additional workshops will be scheduled. Companies may also inquire with OTA about one-on-one assistance. If your company is interested in assistance with their e-filing please contact us at 617-626-1060. For more information about the e-filing workshops visit our website - www.mass.gov/ota/events.htm for more information.

Medical Device Manufactures Workshop

As follow-up to the Medical Device focus group meeting held this past summer, OTA is planning a Design for the Environment workshop for this industry sector in the spring. The Design for the Environment (DfE) program is one of the U.S. EPA's premier partnership programs, working with individual industry sectors to compare and improve the performance and human health and

environmental risks and costs of existing and alternative products, processes, and practices. The primary objective of the DfE workshop will be to define DfE and demonstrate the business case for incorporating DfE into the development and production of medical devices. It will be targeted to R&D staff and senior executives at three types of medical device manufacturers (surgical and medical instruments, electromedical and electrotherapeutic apparatuses, and surgical appliances and supplies), as well as companies in their supply chain and product designers.

The medical device manufacturing industry is a significant contributor to the Massachusetts economy. This sector includes approximately 217 manufacturing establishments with 20,365 employees, a payroll of \$1.2 billion and shipments valued at \$5.0 billion. OTA's activities are designed to reduce environmental costs that may slow growth within the industry.

John Raschko is the team leader for the Medical Device Industry at OTA, and can be contacted at 617-626-1093 or email john.raschko@state.ma.us.

June TUR Workshop: Chlorinated Solvents

The Massachusetts Toxics Use Reduction Act (TURA) Program has identified chlorinated solvents as High Priority Substances and has renewed emphasis on reducing these chemicals in the Commonwealth. As part of this initiative, OTA and the Toxics Use Reduction Institute (TURI) will organize two workshops in early June to discuss regulations applied to the companies using chlorinated solvents, the safer cleaning alternatives and present an information on the companies that eliminated the use of chlorinated solvents. Dates and locations will be announced soon. Please check the OTA (www.mass.gov/ota) or TURI (www.turi.org) website for details.

Event Honoring Manufacturing Success in TUR at the State House

In the spring, House Minority Leader Bradley H. Jones, Jr. will be hosting an event at the State House with OTA to recognize industrial achievement in toxics use reduction (TUR). The event will include speakers from industry and environmental agencies.

Follow up to the 4th Green Chemistry Conference

OTA sponsored the 4th Green Chemistry Conference on January 13 & 14, 2005, hosted by the University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth. The event was held at the Advanced Technology and Manufacturing Center located in Fall River and featured green chemistry activities undertaken by the University of Massachusetts system.

This year's green chemistry event also featured speakers representing the U.S. EPA, the American Chemical Society and Industry leaders. Participants had a unique opportunity to learn about national efforts in green chemistry and were able to attend technical sessions that showcased applications of green chemistry in the textile, coating, plastic, pharmaceutical and nanotechnology sectors. In addition, the conference also included two breakout sessions dealing with the impact of green chemistry and two technical track sessions the first for the textiles and coatings, plastics and renewable feed-stocks, and cleaning & antifouling remediation sectors; and the second for pharmaceuticals & agriculture, nanotechnology & non-covalent derivatization, and energy sectors.

If you have any questions about this event please contact Christopher Fournier, from the Advanced Technology & Manufacturing Center, at 508-910-9867 or email: chemistry_green@yahoo.com. The Toxics Use Reduction Institute, along with OTA and NBEN

are sponsoring a series of evening seminars addressing how green chemistry can positively impact industry in Massachusetts. The first seminar is scheduled for February 22, 2005 at UMass-Lowell. For more information please visit www.turi.org.

Follow Up to the Industrial Water Conservation Seminar at Cranston Print Works – November 9th, Webster, MA

For the second year in a row, OTA sponsored a Technology in Process (TIP) seminar on industrial water conservation hosted at the Cranston Print Works Company, a textile printing facility. Participants learned how a union/management team-oriented approach enabled Cranston to achieve water savings not believed possible in the textile industry. The highlight of the seminar was a guided tour of the facility, which helped participants gain a thorough understanding of the 25+ water conservation projects that have been implemented. The collective result of these projects is an annual savings of 110 million gallons of water and close to \$350,000 in wastewater and energy costs. For more information about this TIP seminar, contact Gus Ogunbameru, OTA's Team Leader for the textile industry, at 617-626-1065 or email augustus.ogunbameru@state.ma.us.

Crane & Co. Recognized by the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs

On October 21, 2004, Environmental Affairs Secretary Ellen Roy Herzfelder recognized Crane & Company for the toxics use reduction efforts at a ceremony at the company's Dalton, Massachusetts facility. The company was honored for their efforts in their elimination of their use of Sulfuric Acid and significant reduction in their use of Sodium Hypochlorite. Crane & Co. achieved these reductions by modifying the process chemistry for the re-pulping of off specification papers. For more information on Crane & Co.'s reductions please visit the OTA website: www.mass.gov/ota or contact Augustus Ogunbameru at 617-626-1093.

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A publication of the Massachusetts Office of Technical Assistance for Toxics Use Reduction (OTA).

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